

**Scheme for rural homeless poor people in Assam**

\*13. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have launched any new scheme for the rural homeless poor people in the country particularly in the State of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the above scheme is being implemented in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for allocation and release of more funds for the above purpose in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Rural Development has not launched has not launched any new scheme for the rural homeless poor people in the country or in Assam. This Ministry is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) Scheme throughout the country including Assam (except Delhi and Chandigarh), under which financial assistance is provided to the rural BPL household for construction of a dwelling unit. 10% of the total funds allocated under the Scheme are earmarked for the North-eastern States and Sikkim which are distributed to all these States according to a pre-determined criteria assigning 75% weightage to housing shortage and 25% to poverty ratio.

**Approved SEZs**

†14. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that several zones have been approved under the Special Economic Zones scheme in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of zones approved so far till the end of October, 2006;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.